

Q And did the Middlesex County expert report the same?

A Yes, sir.

Q Did you yourself have these letters or the glasses in your own hands out at the scene of the murder, or the scene of the bodies? A No, sir.

Q Did you see them in Sheriff Conklin's hands? A I won't actually say that I saw them in his hands, but Mr. Conklin picked them from the ground. I saw him start to pick them up.

Q Will you tell me how he picked them up? Like that, by the edges, or did he put his hands over the sides?

A I can't tell how he took them up.

Q Mr. Totten, as a county detective of twenty-eight years' standing, you understood the importance of telling Sheriff Conklin or Dr. Lange, didn't you, that if he put his fingers on them that way he probably would entirely destroy any finger prints, whereas if he happened to take them by the edges he probably would not? Didn't you understand that that would be wise counsel to give the Sheriff?

A Certainly, but wasn't necessary when I told him to be careful about them. Now, they were all examined afterward, Mr. Pfeiffer, and none of the finger prints were visible.

Q Mr. Totten, when Mr. Conklin picked them up did you specifically caution him with respect to finger prints? A No, sir.